

R E M A R K S

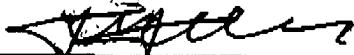
Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10-18, 25 and 26 have been allowed.

Rejected claims 22-24 and 27 have been canceled without prejudice, applicant reserving the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the canceled claims.

No issue remaining at bar, issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

ELKE HELFTENBEIN



Kurt Kelman, Reg. No. 18,628

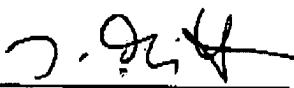
Allison C. Collard, Reg. No. 22,532

Edward R. Freedman, Reg. No. 26,048

Attorneys for Applicants

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by telefax to the US PTO,
fax number 703-872-9307 on January 31, 2003.



Ingrid Mittendorf